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tract nothing from the general excellence of the book, of which it is, perhaps, sufficient to say that it is in keeping with what would be expected from one of Professor Sherman's high rank as a teacher and investigator in this field of analytical chemistry.

The mechanical part of the work is well done, the book being of convenient size, well printed and bound. Personal experience with the index for several months has shown that for the practical purposes of an index it leaves much to be desired. A. G. WOODMAN.

#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

##### THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF ANATOMY.

At a meeting of the board of editors of the *American Journal of Anatomy* on April 18, 1906, Dr. Lewellys F. Barker resigned, and Dr. Charles R. Bardeen, professor of anatomy at the University of Wisconsin, and Dr. Henry H. Donaldson, professor of neurology of the Wistar Institute, were elected editors.

The contents of Vol. V., No. 2, May, 1906, are as follows:

ROSS G. HARRISON: 'Further Experiments on the Development of Peripheral Nerves.' With five figures.

ALBERT C. EYCLESHYMER and J. M. WILSON: 'The Gastrulation and Embryo Formation in *Amia Calva*.' With four double plates.

C. F. W. McCLURE: 'A Contribution to the Anatomy and Development of the Venous System of *Didelphys Marsupialis* (L.)—Part II., Development.' With twenty-seven text figures and five double plates.

Proceedings of the Association of American Anatomists, Nineteenth Session, August 6-10, 1905, and Twentieth Session, December 27-29, 1905.

List of Members of the Association of Anatomists.

#### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

##### SOCIETY FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE.

The sixteenth meeting of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine was held in the new building of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research on Wednesday, April 18. The president, Simon Flexner, was in the chair.

*Members Present.*—Atkinson, Auer, Beebe, Buxton, Calkins, Dunham, Emerson, Field, Flexner, Foster, Gibson, Gies, Herter, Lee, Levene, Lusk, Meltzer, Meyer, Murlin, Noguchi, Opie, Parker,<sup>1</sup> Pratt,<sup>1</sup> Salant, Schwyzer, Sherman, Terry, Wolf, Wood.

*Members Elected.*—Charles R. Bardeen, G. H. A. Clowes, N. B. Foster, J. H. Kastle, Ralph S. Lillie, D. T. MacDougal, J. J. R. Macleod, Robert M. Yerkes.

#### Abstracts of Reports of Original Investigations.<sup>2</sup>

*On the Digestion of Gelatin:* P. A. LEVENE and W. A. BEATTY.

The authors used phosphotungstic acid to effect separation of the amino-acids produced from proteins by hydrolysis. Tryptic digestion of gelatin resulted in the formation of a substance apparently identical with prolinglycyl anhydrid ( $C_7H_{10}N_2O_2$ ).

*The Reactions of Amphioxus to Light:* G. H. PARKER.

When strong light was thrown into a basin of sea-water containing many amphioxus, the whole assembly swam about in wild confusion. This has been taken to indicate that amphioxus is very sensitive to light. But when twenty individuals were illuminated singly only twelve responded. The wild confusion in the first experiment is due quite as much to tactile stimulation as to light. When a strong, well-circumscribed beam of light was thrown on the tail of amphioxus the animal almost always reacted by a slight forward spring. When the light was thrown on the middle of the body there was usually no reaction, though sometimes a backward movement. When the light was applied to the head end, there was always a backward spring. This sensitiveness was not lost or impaired by cut-

<sup>1</sup> Non-resident.

<sup>2</sup> The abstracts presented in this account of the proceedings have been greatly condensed from abstracts given to the secretary by the authors themselves. The latter abstracts of the communications may be found in current numbers of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, *American Medicine* and the *New York Medical Journal*.